

I call on you to hold an official public hearing in my state.

Before the disastrous 2003 decision to weaken media ownership rules (which a federal court has now overturned), you held only one official public hearing. Further, FCC officials met behind closed doors 71 times with major broadcasters – but only five times with public interest groups. And to justify your actions, you used deceptive, industry-sponsored research data.

The will of Big Media had been heeded at the expense of American citizens and democracy itself. This has to end. Before you rewrite the ownership rules, I demand an official public FCC hearing in my state, impartial and verifiable research, and transparent debates.

It is time to put the needs of democracy – a diverse, skeptical, independent and competitive media system – ahead of profit-hungry media giants.

Metropolitan Areas have trouble receiving balanced and fair news. Allowing Fox News to continue their diatribe about their one and only side of an issue is an abomination to free press standards.

The media is the only group or organization that can reveal the issues, state the facts and if opinions are needed let the listeners decide their appropriate choices for local, state and national government actions.

Mergers and corportaiion buy outs should not be approved by the FCC. Public Broadcast radio highlights and especially news reports must not be broadcast with the CEO's taking advantage of owning print and broadcat journalism making balanced news is unavailable. Truth is becoming a lost value in our political snf governmental systems. Truth has been replaced with greed and dishonesty.

Phyllis Henry